

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3 and 4 are pending in this application.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,122,580 to Autermann ("Autermann") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0263316 to Dix et al. ("Dix"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Autermann and Dix, alone or in any permissible combination, fail to disclose and would not have rendered obvious the features recited in independent claim 1. For example, Autermann and Dix fail to disclose and would not have rendered obvious "An antitheft apparatus for a vehicle, which is installed on a vehicle and configured to allow operation of predetermined on-vehicle devices only when a user ID code obtained from a user of the vehicle and a reference ID code registered on the vehicle are identical," as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited features in independent claim 4.

The Office Action asserts on page 4, lines 5-10 that Autermann discloses an antitheft apparatus for a vehicle. However, Autermann discloses an apparatus and method for adjusting mirrors, seat positions, steering columns, and other driver-specific devices and does not disclose an antitheft apparatus (see col. 1, lines 5-7 of Autermann). Such a system does not relate to the prevention of entry into the vehicle or access to the components of the vehicle. Autermann also discloses that other devices which can be set by the present invention include the driver's cab, temperature regulators of the heating and air-conditioning systems, the radio receiver and/or transmitter channel and volume selection, driving strategy, maximum speed, motor setting, and economy parameters (see col. 3, lines 21-31 of Autermann). Autermann discloses that the personal setting-parameter set are stored in a central processor and automatically reactivated when the next user uses a vehicle or machine. Again, such a system does not relate to the prevention of entry into the vehicle. Thus, Autermann discloses an apparatus and method for adjusting driver-specific devices and does

not disclose an antitheft apparatus for a vehicle having the features recited in independent claims 1 and 4.

Dix fails to overcome the deficiencies of Autermann. In particular, one of ordinary skill would not have combined Autermann and Dix to achieve the claimed subject matter. For example, as discussed above, the system of Autermann is not related to the prevention of entry into the vehicle or access to the components of the vehicle. Thus, even though Dix discloses a programmable vehicle access control system that includes an electronic controller to program individual operator smart keys, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have combined the programmable vehicle access control system of Dix with the system of Autermann because Autermann is not related to an antitheft apparatus for a vehicle.

Therefore, independent claims 1 and 4 are patentable over Autermann in view of Dix.

Claim 3 depends from claim 1. Therefore, claim 3 is also patentable over the references at least for its dependence from claim 1 as well as for the additional features claim 3 recites.

Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Vitaliy L. Orekhov
Registration No. 66,731

JAO:VLO/emd

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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